

**\*SB1946 by \*Harper. (HB2138 by \*Pruitt, \*Hardaway.)**

**Education - Requires the department of education to create a pilot project, for the 2007-2008 school year, of mandated attendance in an alternative school for students suspended from school in Davidson County. - Amends TCA Title 49, Chapter 6.**

**Fiscal Summary for \*SB1946 / HB2138**

Increase State Expenditures - \$7,655,000 Increase Local Govt. Expenditures\* - \$4,122,000

**Bill Summary for \*SB1946 / HB2138**

Present law authorizes LEAs to establish alternative schools for students in grades one through six who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program. Each LEA is required to establish at least one alternative school for students in grades seven through 12 who have been suspended or expelled. Attendance in an alternative school is voluntary unless the local board of education adopts a policy mandating attendance.

This bill makes attendance in an alternative school mandatory.

ON JUNE 7, 2007, THE HOUSE ADOPTED AMENDMENT #2 AND PASSED HOUSE BILL 2138, AS AMENDED.

AMENDMENT #2 rewrites this bill and requires the department of education to create for the 2007-2008 school year a pilot project of mandated attendance in an alternative school for students who have been suspended. The pilot project will be established for alternative schools in Davidson County only. The project will be subject to alternative school staffing and space availability. This amendment requires the department to monitor and review the pilot project and report the results of the review to the senate and house education committees and the state board of education by February 16, 2009.